Claims

What is claimed is:

1.   An electronic retail system comprising:

a data entry device that facilitates selection of goods for an order by an originating

user via a network connection;

a notification system that provides a notification to other selected users when an

order is placed; and

an accumulator for accumulating orders from the other selected users for approval

by the originating user.

2.   The system of claim 2 wherein the notification system sends the order to the

selected users.

3.   The system of claim 2 wherein the order is sent in a serial or parallel manner.

4.   The system of claim 2 wherein the order is sent to other users in a manner that

permits the users to access the order.

5.   The system of claim 2 wherein the order is sent to other users by facilitating a

tandem browsing session of the order with the originating user.

6.   The system of claim 2 wherein the order is sent by at least one of electronic mail,

chat, instant messaging and tandem browsing.

7.   The system of claim 1 wherein orders are accumulated for a selected period of

time.

8.   The system of claim 7 wherein the predetermined time is selected by the

originating user.

9.   The system of claim 8 wherein the order is approved following the predetermined time and submitted to the electronic retail system for fulfillment.

10.   A method of shopping on an electronic retail system, the method comprising:
generating an order by an originating user on the electronic retail system;
communicating the order to a non-originating user;
receiving additions to the order from the non-originating user; and
providing the order, including additions to the order, to the originating user for submission as a combined order.

11.   The method of claim 10 and further comprising facilitating modification or approval of the order by the originating user.

12.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is communicated to multiple non-originating users.

13.   The method of claim 12 wherein the order is communicated in serial or parallel manner.

14.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is communicated by identifying the order to the non-originating user in a manner that permits the user to access the order.

15.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is communicated by facilitating a tandem browsing session of the order with the originating user.

16.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is communicated by at least one of electronic mail, chat, instant messaging and tandem browsing.

17.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is accessed by the users from the electronic retail system via a network.

18.   The method of claim 10 wherein the order is formatted and sent to a non-originating user for modification and return to the originating user.

19.   The method of claim 10 wherein modifications to an order by a non-originating user must be received within a predetermined time to be included in the combined order.

20.   The method of claim 19 wherein the predetermined time is selected by the originating user.

21.   The method of claim 10 and further comprising submitting the combined order to the electronic retail system when it is approved by the originating user.

22.   The method of claim 21, wherein the combined order specifies multiple shipping addresses.

23.   The method of claim 21 and further comprising dividing a cost of the order between users based on what they ordered.

24.   An electronic retail system comprising:

means for generating an order by an originating user on the electronic retail system;

means for communicating the order to a non-originating user;

means for receiving additions to the order from the non-originating user; and

means for providing the order, including additions to the order, to the originating user for submission as a combined order.

25.   The electronic retail system of claim 24, wherein the means for generating an order comprises a computer system coupled via a network to the an electronic retail system server.

26.   The electronic retail system of claim 24 wherein the means for communicating the order to a non-originating user comprises an originating user network appliance.

27.   The electronic retail system of claim 24 wherein the means for providing the
5   order to the originating user comprises an electronic retail system server.

28.   A computer readable medium having instructions for causing a computer to execute a method of shopping on an electronic retail system, the method comprising:
        generating an order by an originating user on the electronic retail system;
10   communicating the order to a non-originating user;
        receiving additions to the order from the non-originating user; and
        providing the order, including additions to the order, to the originating user for submission as a combined order.

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